IOWA HISTORICAL RECORD

VOL. I. OCTOBER, 1885. NO. 4.

ANSEL BRIGGS.

IF WE examine the early history of any northwestern state, we shall often find the adventurous Yankee engineering its course as it first leaves the territorial side-track of the great union depot of Washington, to follow, as a state, an independent track of its own. Thus we have the first three governors of Iowa, Briggs from Vermont, Hempstead from Connecticut, and Grimes from New Hampshire.

Ansel Briggs, the first governor of the state of Iowa, was the son of Benjamin Ingley Briggs and Electa, his wife, and was born in Vermont, February 3d, 1806. His boyhood was spent in his native state, where, in the common schools, he received a fair education, improved by a term spent at the Academy of Norwich.

In his youth, about the year 1830, with his parents, he removed to Cambridge, Guernsey county, Ohio, where he engaged in the work of establishing stage lines, and where, as a Whig, he competed with John Ferguson, a Jackson Democrat, for the office of county auditor, and was defeated.

In his twenty-fourth year he married a wife, born the same day and year as himself, of whom he was soon bereft. Before leaving Ohio he married his second wife, Nancy M., daughter of Major Dunlap, an officer of the war of 1812.

In 1836, removing from Ohio, he joined that hardy band, so honored here to-day, the pioneers of Iowa, and settled with his family at Andrew, in Jackson county. Here he resumed his former business of opening stage lines, sometimes driving the stage himself, and entering into contracts with the post-office department for carrying the United States mails weekly between Dubuque and Davenport, and between the former point and Iowa City, and over other routes.

On coming to Iowa he affiliated with the Democrats, and on their ticket, in 1842, was elected a member of the territorial house of representatives from Jackson county, and subsequently sheriff of the same county.

Then came the year of grace, 1846, the last year of the nonage of Iowa. The Democratic party was in the ascendency, but not so strong but that an unsound plank in their platform, or an unpopular candidate, might have thrown into the arms of their rivals, the Whigs, the infant state lately born by the adoption of the constitution, accepting the terms prescribed by congress for its admission into the Union, at the election of August 3d, 1846.

Strange enough, it seems that at that day, as at this, the liquor license question was one of the problems which perplexed the statesmen of Iowa. "In addition to other things," writes Thomas H. Benton, Jr., in a private letter from Dubuque to Governor Briggs, dated April 3d, 1847, "the license question has been brought forward, and has absorbed everything relative to the election. Indeed, I believe it is a trick on the part of the Whigs to divert the attention of the Democrats. Some of the Whigs have become very temperate all at once, and do not get drunk more than once a week."

The question, however, dividing the parties of that day in Iowa, above all others, was that of banks — favored by the Whigs and opposed by the Democrats. A convention had met at Iowa City, October 7th, 1844, and framed a constitution giving even wider boundaries to Iowa than those authorized by the constitution adopted in 1846, and also authorizing the establishment of a state bank with branches, which, on its submission to popular vote failed of approval. A second convention met in Iowa City on the first Monday of May, 1846, and submitted a constitution with more limited boundaries for the new state and prohibiting banks of every description, which, at the election of August 3d, 1846, was adopted by the people by a majority of 456 in a total vote of 18,528.

Judge Jesse Williams and William Thompson were the competitors of Briggs for the Democratic nomination for governor. A short time before the nominating convention met, Briggs, at a banquet by a happy sentiment, struck a responsive cord in the popular heart by offering the toast, "no banks but earth, and they well tilled," a sententious appeal to the pride of the producer and the prejudice of the partisan, which was at once caught up as a party cry, and did more to secure its author the nomination of governor than all else.

The convention was held at Iowa City, the capital, on Thursday, September 24th, 1846, and assembled to nominate two congressmen and state officers. It was called to order by F. D. Mills, of Des Moines county, who was soon afterwards killed in the Mexican war, fighting for his country. Wm. Thompson, of Henry county, now captain United States army, retired, living at Bismarck, Dakota, presided. He had previously been a member of congress from Ohio, and subsequently became a member of the same body from Iowa. J. T. Fales, of Dubuque, was secretary. Among the delegates were A. McCleary, of Louisa county; J. E. Goodenow, of Jackson county; J. J. Dyer, afterwards United States district judge, succeeded upon his death by Judge J. M. Love; P. B. Bradley, of Jackson county, afterwards state senator, and secretary of the senate; James Rush Hartsock, of Iowa City, afterwards grand master of the Masonic Order of Iowa; E. W. Eastman, of Des Moines county, afterwards lieutenant governor; Shepherd Leffler, one of the first congressmen from the state; J. H. Bonney, afterwards secretary of state; T. S.

Parvin, grand secretary of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Iowa; A. H. Palmer, then editor of the *Iowa Capitol Reporter*, published at Iowa City; F. Gehon, of Dubuque, United States marshal of the territory; George Green, of Linn county, afterwards judge of the Supreme Court of Iowa; C. Corkery, of Dubuque, who died recently in California; W. G. Stewart, of Dubuque, J. W. Witcher, and S. Hempstead, afterwards governor.

The vote for governor in the convention stood, Briggs, 62, Jesse Williams, 32, and William Thompson, 31. The two latter withdrew, and Briggs was then nominated by acclamation. Elisha Cutler, Jr., of Van Buren county, was nominated for secretary of state, Jos. T. Fales, of Linn, for auditor, and Morgan Reno, of Johnson county, for treasurer. S. C. Hastings and Shepherd Leffler were nominated for congress.

The election was held on the 26th of October, 1846, the entire Democratic ticket being successful. Briggs received 7,626 votes, and his competitor, Thomas McKnight, the Whig candidate, 7,379, giving Briggs a majority of 247. And so, on December 28th, 1846, Governor Clark's territorial governorship came to an end, and Governor Briggs' term began.

His official headquarters were at Iowa City, but his home remained at Andrew, where he had two very intimate friends, from whom no political secret, however sacred, was withheld. These were Philip B. Bradley and Doctor H. M. Clark. Their influence with the governor was so universally recognized by the leading Democrats of the state, like Charles Mason, the younger Benton and Judge Dyer, that in communicating confidentially with the governor, they generally added a postscript to their letters to the effect that their epistles were intended for "the boys," as these two worthies were styled, as well as for his excellency, or they would say, "show this to Phil and Doc," for it was very well known that the road to the governor's heart lay through the good will of his shrewd and judicious private cabinet, Bradley and Clark.

The administration of Gov. Briggs was generally placid. Although avoiding excitement and desirous of being in harmonious accord with his party, when occasion required he exhibited an independent firmness not easily shaken, as was shown by his veto, January 25th, 1848, provoked by an act passed by the legislature to absolve H. H. Hendrix and Edward Pedigo from their liability as the bondsmen of James W. Potts, indicted by a grand jury, and who had absconded.

One perplexing controversy bequeathed him by his precessors was the Missouri boundary question, which had arisen early in the history of Iowa, while still a territory, and had produced much disquiet, and even a resort to arms on the part of both Iowa and Missouri. It arose partly from a misapprehension on the part of the Missouri authorities as to the point intended to be designated in the description of the inter-state boundary by the words, "Des Moines rapids," whether a point in the Mississippi river, opposite the mouth of the Des Moines river, or rapids in the Des Moines river itself, above its mouth, and consequently north of the "Des Moines rapids" in the Mississippi.

The dispute was finally settled, mainly in favor of Iowa, by a decree of the Supreme Court of the United States, rendered at the December term, 1848.

After the expiration of his four years' term, Gov. Briggs continued his residence in Jackson county, where he engaged in commercial business, having sold out his mail contracts when he came to the governorship. A man of lasting attachments, here for many years he remained in close companionship with those old friends on whose counsel he had leaned in his days of authority, renewing from year to year by rehearsal, as the soldier fights his battles over, the achievements of former days.

By his second marriage he had eight children, all of whom died in infancy save two, and of these latter, Ansel, Jr., died, May 15th, 1867, aged twenty-five years.

John S. Briggs, the only survivor of the family, is the editor of the Idaho *Herald*, published at Blackfoot, Idaho Territory. His wife, Mrs. Mary E. Briggs, is an accomplished lady of literary tastes and talent, whose poetical productions are not inferior to some of those of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

One son, Andrew Dunlap, whose name bears an incidental relation to two of the towns of Iowa, died at the age of two years.

Mrs. Briggs, the wife of the governor and the mother of these children, was an ardent Christian woman, adhering to the Presbyterian doctrine, and very domestic in her tastes. She was well educated and endowed by nature with such womanly tact and grace as to enable her to adorn the high estate her husband had attained. She dispensed, albeit, in a log house, a form of architecture in vogue in Iowa at that day, as the mansion of the rich or the cabin of the poor, a bounteous hospitality to the stranger and a generous charity to the poor, in which gracious ministrations she was always seconded by her benevolent husband, the governor. She died December 30th, 1847, during her husband's term as governor. John S. Briggs, her only surviving child, relates pathetically, that on the night of her death, he being only eight years old, he was wakened out of sleep by a voice calling, "Johnnie, your mother is dying; come, look now!" Her memory did more to mould his tender mind and deter him from evil than all other influences.

In 1870, Gov. Briggs removed from Andrew to Council Bluffs. He had visited the western part of the state before railroads had penetrated there, and made the trip by carriage. On that occasion he enrolled himself as one of the founders of the town of Florence, on the Nebraska side of the Missouri river, six miles above Council Bluffs, which, for a time, was an active and successful rival of Omaha, and disputed with that city the honor ot being the chief town of Nebraska.

He made a trip to Colorado during the mining excitement in 1860. After returning and spending some time at home, he went to Montana in 1863, with his son, John, and a large party, remaining there till 1865, when he came back. For the last six years of his life he resided at Omaha with his son, John.

His last illness, ulceration of the stomach, was only five weeks in duration. He was able to be out three days before his death, which occurred at the residence of his son, John S. Briggs, in Omaha, May 5th, 1881, at half-past three o'clock, A. M.

Gov. Gear issued a proclamation the next day, reciting his services to the state, ordering half-hour guns to be fired and the national flag on the state capitol to be half-masted, during the day of the funeral.

He was buried on the Sunday succeeding his death, May 8th, in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Omaha, Rev. W. J. Harsha conducting the services.

Gov. Briggs was of average height, of open, pleasant address, quiet and retiring, plain and unostentatious.

Two brothers of the dead governor survive him; one, Roswell Briggs, lives in Oregon, where he and several sons are settled; Judge Albert Briggs, another brother, a prominent Republican politician, lives in Washington Territory, and represented his county, Jefferson, in the territorial legislature at the sessions of 1861–2 and 1863. He was also probate judge of Jefferson county for fourteen years.

When Briggs was elected governor the population of Iowa was about 97,000, He lived to see it contain a population of a million and three quarters and to have become the second corn producing and fifth wheat producing state, and surpass all southern states but Missouri and Kentucky in population. "In honorable old age," says a writer alluding to his death, "he lived to see the full realization of the desire he had expressed in his retiring message to the general assembly in 1850, that this, his adopted state, might ever be distinguished for virtue, intelligence and prosperity."

We are indebted for information in the preparation of this very meagre sketch of Iowa's first state governor to Mrs. Mary E. Briggs, daughter-in-law of the deceased governor, to Col. S. C. Trowbridge, librarian of the State Historical Society, Iowa City, to the Council Bluffs *Nonpareil*, to the Omaha, Neb., *Herald*, to the Omaha, Neb., *Bee*, and to the *Puget Sound Argus*, of Port Townsend, W. T.

PIONEERS, OLD SETTLERS AND NEW, OF IOWA.

BY T. S. PARVIN.

THE pioneer, or earliest association of the kind of which we are now (October, 1885), informed is that of Scott county. In later years, "Old Settlers' Associations," as they are generally styled, have been organized in all of the old and many of the newer counties. By old counties we mean those organized by the first territorial legislature of Iowa, in November, 1838, the territory having been erected by an act of congress of June 12th, same year. In the new and most of the old counties the period of membership is twenty or twenty-five years previous residence in the state. This would carry the "old settler" back only to 1860, when he came from any point east and could travel to the center of the state, having a population of half a million and near a hundred thousand thrown in, by rail. The "Ship of the Desert" or "Prairie Schooner" of the early emigrant had become "obsolete." Such an old settler in point of age and knowledge of early days, is as the suckling grand child to the aged grand parent.

Scott limits her membership to those who came to Iowa Territory prior to January, 1840, and all such know something "whereof they affirm." With such a limitation however, her membership is growing annually less, and soon the "last of the Mohicans" will have had his "day in court," and none will be left to tell the tale of suffering and hardships endured by those who "builded wiser than they knew," when they helped to lay the corner-stone, without ceremonies, of the great state of Iowa. We confess to a degree of honest pride in having our name enrolled among such worthies. And we propose to speak of one among the earliest and noblest of them all. We desire, however, to continue a little further the line of thought here presented. In Lee and Des Moines counties, where the largest numbers annually congregate, they make a distinction and classify the membership as "pioneers"—all who (as in Scott), came to Iowa prior to 1840, and "old settlers," those who have resided in the county for twenty-five consecutive years previous to their enrollment. This plan, in our judgment, is much preferable to that adopted by Scott and possibly one or two other counties. In Scott and many other counties the attendants upon these annual reunions is limited to the actual members and their families. On the contrary, in Lee, Des Moines and other counties everybody comes and the day is made *the day*, the holiday of all the year. The old settlers have, and the new ones should have, an interest ever in the "twice-told-tale" of our pioneers, whose story of reminiscences have a historical interest, carrying us back to the beginning of things, to the day of small things in Iowa, where as elsewhere all things have had to have a beginning. At Keokuk, the Gate-of-Iowa, late in September, was held the second reunion of the pioneers of Missouri, Illinois and Iowa, styled the "Tri-State Old Settlers' Association," which has proved a success and established the permanency of the association.

To the January number, 1884, volume three, new series, of the *Annals of Iowa*, we contributed an article on the "Early Schools of Iowa." This was republished in the *Normal Monthly*, Dubuque, May, 1885. Our principal aim in the laborous preparation of that article, during which we were brought into correspondence with very many of the pioneers of Iowa, whose coming had preceded by many years that of 1840, was to ascertain, if possible, "who taught the first school," and "when and where in Iowa?" We reproduce here, from those sources, all we could then learn of *the pioneer school teacher of Iowa.* From Mr. Wm. Patterson, of Keokuk (formerly of West Point), Lee county, we learn that a school was taught near the present Nashville, on the Rapids, in Lee county, as early as 1830, by *Benjamin* Jennings. Capt. Benjamin Campbell, of Ft. Madison, who located in Lee county (when a boy), as early as 1830, and has resided there continuously since, refers in his address (of a few years ago), to the old settlers of Lee county to this same Jennings, and also calls him "Benjamin." We further referred to him as "late a millionaire in Oregon," by which *we* are enabled to "trace his genealogy." This we will briefly do from the records — Masonic in our library. In August, 1851, *Berryman* Jennings, J. C. Ainsworth, also from Keokuk, Iowa, and others united in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Oregon, and "Berryman Jennings" was elected grand master. The Grand Lodge met at Oregon City, which was then the residence, as now, of Brother Jennings, and he is returned in June, 1883, as a member of Multnomah Lodge, No. 1, of that city.

We are led to think that *Benjamin* and Berryman Jennings are the same person, and that *his* name has been incorrectly given by Capt. Benjamin Campbell in his address, as also by the historian of Lee county. We have written Brother Jennings upon the subject and for tidings from the "*first* school in Iowa." To the article when republished, to our letter, we added:

"It was a long time before we could get a reply from Brother Jennings. During the present winter (1884–85), however, we received from the feeble old man, now an octogenarian (85), a response to our letter. He 'still lives,' and at Oregon City, and writes us his recollections of *that* school, and of some of his old pupils, especially Capt. Campbell." He signed himself *Berryman*, thus proving our surmises to have been correct. Benjamin and Berryman Jennings is the self same person, and our old Masonic friend, the "friend of our early youth," has recently been *caned* by the Grand Lodge he organized more than a third of a century ago, in that, then far off land, where the Oregon rolls his flood.

At the reunion of the "Tri-State Old Settlers' Association," during the past month (September 30th), Hon. Ed. Johnstone, president of the association, presented and read a letter from the old man, and old pioneer, and old school teacher, from which we may learn more of those early days than from his autograph letter addressed to us. We deem this "bit of history" worthy a place in the pages of the RRCORD, and so copy from the *Democrat* of Ft. Madison the letter:

PORTLAND, OREGON, September 16th, 1885.
HON. EDWARD JOHNSTONE,
PRESIDENT OF THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.
My Dear Sir:

I received your kind invitation to attend the Second Annual Reunion of Old Settlers of Illinois, Missouri and Iowa, to be held on the 30th inst.

I am under many obligations for this kind invitation, and would most gladly attend if it were in my power to do so, but age and its attendant infirmities warn me that this is a pleasure I must forego.

In your circular I perceive the names of old and valued friends whom I would like to meet again, and especially on an occasion like the one in contemplation. Were I there I would probably have the pleasure of seeing Capt. J. W. Campbell, of Fort Madison, who was a pupil in a school which I taught near Keokuk in 1830. He possibly might not be able to recognize his old teacher now.

I was born in Kentucky, and with my father and his family emigrated to Hancock county, in Illinois, where he settled. Soon afterward I started out for the "half breed tract" west of the Mississippi before the territory of Iowa was organized. I was then about twenty-three years of age and of somewhat roving disposition.

"The world was all before me where to choose my place of rest," and I chose the country afterwards organized into the territory of Iowa, and it was there I taught the school near Keokuk, in 1830, already referred to. This was the first school taught in the vast territory north of the state of Missouri and west of the Mississippi, and between that and the Pacific ocean. Since then seven or eight states and territories west of the Mississippi have been organized, with a population probably of several million inhabitants; and from the little school, in 1830, schools, colleges and seminaries of learning have been established in them all since I first placed my footsteps on the soil of Iowa.

Besides this, emigrants from Iowa to the Pacific coast brought with them the statute laws of that territory; for in 1844 the provisional government of Oregon adopted as its code of laws the statutes of Iowa territory, passed in 1838, so far as the same could be made applicable to our situation here. Thus, you will perceive that Iowa has left the impress of its laws on this distant commonwealth, where I at last have made my home. Will you be pleased to express to the old settlers, at your reunion on the 30th inst., the kindest regards of one who cannot be there, but who loves them all.

I am, dear sir, very truly your friend,

BERRYMAN JENNINGS.

RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY TIMES IN IOWA.

SUEL FOSTER.

IN APRIL, 1836, I was living at Rock Island, Ills. In May the town of Davenport was laid out on government land, adjoining on the west of Le Claire's reserve. In June of that year, I took a short journey in the "Blackhawk Purchase," as it was then called. I do not think the name of Iowa had been given to it then, for it was the new western wild district of Michigan territory. I passed 30 miles down the west bank of the Mississippi river, a beautiful flat lime-stone shore most of the way, and I have never found any part of the west so prolific of town sites. I had to pick my way along among town lot stakes much of the way.

The first town was Davenport; the second, four miles, Rockingham; the third, one mile, Montevideo; the fourth, five miles, New Buffalo; the fifth, six miles, Iowa. This town was laid out by Capt. Robert E. Lee and Major Wm. Gordon. (The same Lee afterwards the great Rebel general). The sixth, one mile, Montpelier; the seventh, four miles, Salem; the eighth, one mile, Wyoming; the ninth, four miles, Geneva; the tenth, three miles, Bloomington; the eleventh, half a mile, Newburgh. At that time, Stephen T. Mason was governor of our (Michigan), territory. We had no counties. I recollect the names of several of the mayors of those cities, Antoine Le Claire of Davenport, John H. Sullivan of Rockingham, Capt. Benjamin Clark of New Buffalo, Capt. Robert E. Lee of Iowa. He was absent at that time, surveying the route of the great river, United States engineer, which river has flowed ever since in the old channel which Lee marked out. The mayor of Montpelier was Benjamin Nye; Salem, James and Wm. Chambers; Wyoming, Samuel Coliar; Geneva, Dr. Eli Reynolds; Bloomington (now Muscatine), John Vanater; Newburgh, G.W. Kasey. All the intermediate cities between Davenport and Muscatine are now in the suburbs of those two cities.

My journey continued about 25 miles south south-west from Bloomington, across the Iowa river, to Wapello Indian village, three miles below where the town of Wapello now is. Blackhawk lived in Chief Wapello's village then, where I met with him, and we shook hands cordially.

On this journey of exploring the country, I formed the opinion that at the bend of the river where Muscatine now is was the only proper place for a town between Davenport and Burlington. I learned that Capt. Benj. Clark, of Clark's Ferry, at New Buffalo, was the owner of an undivided one-sixth part of the town site of Bloomington, which I bought of him for $500, in the spring of 1836. I have made some search among my old papers for that deed which, as near as I can recollect, was about as follows:

"This quit claim deed, made this 24th day of August, 1836, by Benjamin Clark, of Buffalo, Blackhawk Purchase, to Suel Foster, of Rock Island, Ills., Witnesseth, that, for the consideration of the sum of five hundred ($500), dollars, one hundred is paid in hand, and a promissory note, of this date, for four hundred, payable in 90 days, the said Clark hereby sells and conveys, by quit claim, one undivided sixth part of the town site of Bloomington, described as follows: Beginning at the west end of John Vanater's cabin, thence down the shore of the river 80 rods, and from the same cabin 80 rods up the river, and extending half a mile back, including 160 acres."

At that time no government surveys had been made in Blackhawk Purchase. About sixteen months later I saw the surveyors who were running the township line between 76 and 77. They came over the bluff from the west and struck the river near the center of Bloomington, an extremely cold day near the last of December, 1837. Up to this time the surveying was only into townships six miles square. The next summer the townships were sub-divided into sections.

When the section lines were run, the surveyors paid no attention to our claim lines, but sometimes made a section corner in the middle of a corn field. Then came the difficult task to adjust the claims to the section lines. Without law on this subject, we made claim laws and established courts of arbitration. We petitioned our territorial legislature to legalize our claim laws and divisions. They did, and made our arbitration, when transferred to the District court, binding between the parties.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE PAST.

N. LEVERING, LOS ANGELES, CAL.

WHEN I resolved to emigrate to Iowa, in 1854, I was residing in Bloomington, Ills. In September of that year, while district court was in session there (presided over by Hon. David Davis), I took my departure. Abraham Lincoln was attending court there at the time. Early in the morning I bid my friends adieu and turned my steps toward the depot to board the train for my future home, carrying with me the good wishes of many kind hearts for my future success. Passing along I observed, on the opposite side of the street, the tall form of Abraham Lincoln, who was out for a morning stroll.

"Good-bye, Lincoln," I said. "What, are you off?" said he. "Yes." "Where are you going?" "To Iowa, to hunt out a home and carve out a fortune," I answered. "Well, if that is the case, I will accompany you to the depot, as I am out for a morning walk and it will be some time yet before the court convenes," he said. It was near a mile to the depot, and, as we walked along, he gave me many kind words of advice as to commencing business in my new field of labor. "My name," said he, "is at your service; use it in any way that it will be of advantage to you, and should you ever require my services you have only to let me know and I will most cheerfully aid you." I thanked him most kindly and was deeply impressed with his noble and generous impulse, which afterward marked him as the greatest of men. Arriving at the depot in advance of the train, we were standing on the platform, conversing, when the train arrived. The first passenger to alight was Codding, a noted abolition speaker. He was of very dark complexion, much resembling that of the noted Thomas Corwin. No sooner had he made his appearance when Lincoln's eye caught him. Turning to me quickly, he said, "Look, there is Codding; just look at him; he has preached abolition so long that he is turning black." Lincoln was brim full of sparkling, mirthful wit, which cropped out on every occasion. It was about this time he was an attorney in a case of assault and battery in the Bloomington court; one witness whom Lincoln was examining, stated that the assault was made in a ten acre field on a certain farm. "Now, Mr. Witness," said Lincoln, "do you not think that was the poorest crop of a fight to the acre that you ever saw?" "Yes, squire, the poorest crop to the acre arter it was threshed that ever I seed, and this ere court, arter grinding, will scoop the hull of it for toll."

THOMAS CORWIN.

Having referred to the humorous and eloquent Corwin, I am reminded of a joke at his expense, which I think too good to be lost. It was during his gubernatorial contest in Ohio, when, making a speech at Mt. Vernon, in that state, a small specimen of humanity who donned the euphonious name of Tom Thumb, was on exhibition there at the same time. There lived in the town a gentleman of African descent, named Samuel Jackson, whose complexion was commensurate with that of the ace of spades. He was an exception to his race in shrewdness and but few sons of the emerald isle could rival him in keen, ready wit. He was usually employed to notify the citizens of the town of any public meeting or exhibition that was to take place. He had a voice like unto one of the bovines of Bashan, and when mounted on a horse with bell in hand, the denizens throughout the city were duly notified. On this occasion Sam's stentorian voice echoed through the streets the arrival of Tom Thumb. A bystander called out, "Sam, why are you not hallooing for Tom Corwin?" Sam suddenly reined up his steed, his eyes looking like two eggs in a coal basket were turned upon his interlocutor, and with a look of contempt, he said, "I thank you sa, I does not hollow for black folks myself." "Well, Sam, do you think Corwin a negro?" "Well sa," was the reply, "if you tink dar is no nigger blood in dat man, you look in his eye sa, and den into mine. I tell you sa, dat man is too smart for a white man."

PETER CARTWRIGHT.

On my way, business called me to Lewiston, Ills., where I found the M. E. conference in session. One morning, in visiting the conference, as I stepped into the vestibule of the church, my attention was attracted by the animated conversation and gestures of an aged minister, bowing under the weight of years, yet full of fire and vim. He was surrounded by a number of divines with whom he was discussing the merits of Stephen A. Douglass, of whom he was an ardent friend. He claimed to have given Douglass the first office that he ever held and that Douglass was the champion friend of the west, etc. Returning to the church a few hours after, I found this same vigorous elderly minister in the pulpit, preaching with as much animation as he had discussed politics, his keen and piercing eyes flashing defiance to opposition. I was at once captivated with the man. He was a wonderful man, possessing a remarkable influence over his audience and seemed to control them at will. One minute he had them weeping like children, the next laughing as if they were strangers to tears. He gave the conference a short history of his early itinerancy as a preacher, when he had the territories of Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin in one circuit, and made the rounds once in a year. "Ah," said he, "if I were young again I would not stop here to pick chicken bones in Illinois, but I would go to California or some other fornia and preach the glorious gospel." I punched a white necktie at my side and inquired who the minister was, and was informed that it was the pioneer preacher, Peter Cartwright.

Leaving Lewiston for Burlington, Iowa, and from thence to the central portion of the state, I was accompanied by Rev. John Nate, a young Methodist minister of promise, who was desirous of entering upon ministerial labors on the frontier in Iowa. Matters were lovely and the goose hung high with him until we reached the newly settled portions of country, where nice conveniences had been exchanged for the stern realities of a frontier life, where "soft bed was a rarity and the yellow-legged farm-yard songster seldom graced the festal board," my friend's spirits drooped, and he was not long in arriving at the conclusion that he was not a Cartwright and that the Lord had commissioned some one else to fight the devil on the frontier, and that he had got into the wrong pew — and better things awaited him back in the land of suckers. After braving it though to Tama county, he bid me adieu and turned his face for Illinois. When last heard from he was comfortably located in Chicago.

(To be continued.)

MOVEMENT OF THE GLACIERS OF THE ICE PERIOD

IN IOWA AND ITS VICINITY.

IN FORMER articles I have said that "two great ice sheets came down from the frozen north and flowed in directions at right angles, as they approached and met each other in the valley of the Mississippi." It was the meeting of these two oceans of ice which brought about the formation of the valley.

I think that at first there was something more than the natural declivity of the earth's surface inclined towards the axis of the valley, which assisted in giving form and depth to it, the cradle, which was to guide the giant river to the sea. I am of the opinion that great faults, or fissures, cleft the rocky ribs of the earth in many places along the present line of the valley, and also along the line of many of its tributary vallies, which faults and fissures served the purpose of not only guiding and carrying away the immense volumes of water escaping from the sides and front of the glaciers that slowly plowed their way along them, southward, rubbing off their rocky points and smoothing up their sides, and filling their lower depths with a compacted mass of stones, soil, gravel and sand. But into such fissures broken through the stratified rocks from St. Paul to Davenport rolled the crunching masses of ice, to be guided in the way formed by the earthquake's mighty power, now to the eastward, crowding and pushing the Wisconsin glacier back into its sandstone ledges, and forcing it to come down along the Wisconsin and Rock rivers. Then to the westward, whereupon the Minnesota glacier was forced to retreat, and gliding across the quartzite ridges of Minnesota to crush up the limestones of Iowa, thus cutting down into the earth and forming the river vallies of the state. Then the Wisconsin glacier had a chance to try its teeth upon the sandstones and limestones of eastern Iowa, and thus they went growling at their work as they filed away the Cretaceous and Carboniferous strata, crushed and ground to powder the Devonian and Silurian systems, and carrying ahead of them the result of their work, which, by the aid of the oceans of water discharged from their sides, they laid down to form the surface soil of the states of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, and probably to a much greater extent beyond the lines of these states.

Now, whether these two great continental glaciers did so push each other to the right or left, or not, it remains as a fact, that glacial ice did give the present forms to the sides of the valley of the Mississippi from St. Paul, Minnesota, to Davenport, Iowa, and doubtless much farther southward. I do not dispute that the river itself has cut away much of the strata through which it passes. This it no doubt has done by the force of falls and rapids along its course; falls that would put to blush the great Niagara; falls whose dying force is to be seen feebly cutting away the sandstone bed of the river at St. Anthony.

Thus, after the work of the earthquake and the glaciers, giving form and direction to the flow of the river, came the dynamic power of water, cutting down obstructions, clearing away accumulations of sand and soil, and giving a gentle slope to its bed, along which float the graceful steamboats of our day. What a panorama of giant powers, and their effects as great and wondrous as themselves. The lowering of the river in the time since the ice left its valley is shown by the well defined system of terraces to be seen at many places along its course. There are five of them which I have seen and measured. Thus has the great river come to a pretty regular slope.

The elevation* of the river at the foot of St. Anthony's falls and rapids is above the sea in feet,	713½
At mouth of the Minnesota river it is	710
At Winona City, Minnesota, it is	645
At La Crosse, Wisconsin, it is	641
At Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin, it is	619
At Dubuque, Iowa, it is	600
At Clinton, Iowa, it is	575
At Davenport, Iowa, it is	553
At Burlington, Iowa, it is	512
At Keokuk, Iowa, it is	482

From this it is seen that the river falls 231½ feet from St. Anthony's to Keokuk, which is at the rate of 6⅓ inches per mile, and includes the fall over the two rapids. Above the rapids the fall averages 5½ inches per mile, and is less, at some lengths of the river, as, for instance, between La Crosse and Prairie Du Chien, where it is only 3⅞ inches per mile.

The surface of the earth eastward from the Mississippi to Madison, Wis., and southward approaches a plain, in configuration, and does not rise much over 850 feet above the sea in the latitude of Madison, and it slopes downward and southward from that city. North and west from Madison the country rises into high, rugged and broken hills which, in the latitude of St. Paul, and between that city and Madison, reach to an altitude of not less than 1,000 to 1,200 feet above the sea. From St. Paul west and south the earth's surface is at about an average of 1,000 feet, until the Minnesota river is crossed, when from that valley the ground rises gradually to an altitude of 1,300 to 1,400 feet, which is along the crest of the elevated dividing ridge between the streams of Iowa on the south and the streams of Minnesota on the north of it, which I have already described in a former article.

---

*All elevations given in this article are to be considered as only the closest approximations that I can command with the data within my reach.— C. W. I.

Now, the high sandstone hills and ridges between Madison, Wis., and St. Paul, Minnesota, served to aid in diverting the flow of the great glacier which came down from the direction of Green Bay towards Iowa, causing it to flow in a more southward course, but it doubtless overtopped all those hills and some of its body came on southwestward, meeting the Minnesota glacier, which also was diverted in a great measure from its southeast course and turned more to the eastward by the high ridge of stony materials piled in its way from McGregor, Iowa, and La Crosse, Wis., westward, but it no doubt surpassed this ridge and flowed across it, at all times, until its final retreat from the borders of our state. But it is evident that at all times during the continuance of the glaciers over Minnesota and Iowa there was a deep and powerful flow along the axis of the valley of the Minnesota river from Mankato down to its opening into the valley of the Mississippi. This flow caused a large proportion of the glacier to turn from Mankato eastward, and hence the deep and extensive cutting into the rocky strata all the way from McGregor to St. Paul, the course of the rocky vallies thus cut being east to northeast.

Along the western border of Iowa we have the Missouri river, which, with its valley, presents none the less interest than that of the Mississippi. It is doubtless the oldest of the two from the junction northward.

From all that I have seen, it appears that at first all the extent of the earth's surface, from the summit of the Rocky Mountains eastward to to Lake Michigan, and beyond, was at one time covered with ice, and that this great ice sheet moved pretty uniformly southward, and, in doing so, did the first cutting and shaping of the rocky foundations of the present order of things, and that when it retired, or dissolved, the valley of the Missouri was left as a result of the handiwork of the ice. The cutting done was very deep along our western boundary, and for a long time the Missouri valley must have been the bed of an inland sea, which may have reached from a shore somewhere towards the western limits of Dakota and Nebraska, eastward to the Allegheny mountains. This sea or lake certainly spread over the greater part of Iowa. Then it seems that this inland sea was drained, and after that came another incursion of glaciers, but not along the old and deeply cut track across Dakota and Nebraska. It came from the northwest and spread out over Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa, but not nearly to as great a depth as before.

The old one had swept clean the bed rocks of all the region from the lakes, west to the Rocky mountains, and south to the Ozark chain, and by the aid of that mountain range, and also of a barrier made of the materials which it had gathered and pushed along from the regions over which it travelled, it left that barrier which was its terminal moraine as the southern rim of a great lake or inland sea. I have seen the marks of this ancient glacier in several different places, and they are always to be found in the very lowest depths to which the bed of the glacier could reach. Moreover, they are also always found cut and scratched into the hardest rocks to be found along its line of march. The softer ones tell no tale of its existence. Such marks are to be found in the cradle like depression of the Sioux pipestone quarry. This depression ranges north and south, and the marks left on the hard quartzite, in the very bottom on the floor of the quarry, range from northeast to southwest, very nearly. Again, in the valley of the James river, twenty to thirty miles above Yankton, Dakota, are seen the scratches, grooves and other marks of glacial ice. Here too, they point towards the southwest, and this point is at the very lowest level of all that country, except the mouth of the river. It is the lowest where rocks appear.

Again, at Council Bluffs and Omaha, on the bed-rock of the Missouri river, which was reached in building the great iron railway bridge between those two cities, at a depth of about seventy feet below low water of the river. This bed-rock consists of a very tough compact stone, called by the geologists, Fusulina limestone. At every point where the pneumatic piles of that great bridge came to the rock, was to be seen on its surface a set of lines and furrows which had a direction about half way between south and southwest.

A reason for this motion towards the southwest instead of due south, can be seen in the fact that from the summit of the undisturbed geologic strata in northwest Iowa, down to the level of this bed of Fusulina limestone at Omaha, is not less than 630 feet,* and that at the river in the vicinity of Sioux City the declivity of the slope of the bed-rocks cannot be less than 500 feet from the summit, distant not more than thirty to forty miles eastward. This, if true, and that the rock surface declines with a somewhat regular slope, will give a fall towards the west of about eighteen inches per mile. But this declivity may be much greater. It may be that the rocks drop almost perpendicularly from the highest to the lowest level. In this case, as before said, not less than 500 feet. I believe that the bed-rocks do so form a precipitous slope along the western border of our state, it may be, of greatly varying height, being much lower towards the south than it is at the north part.

It was this rocky slope, or precipice, which served to turn the ice current aside from its otherwise irresistible march. Nor could it have done this, but must certainly have been destroyed by the rasping action of the ice, had not its northern end have been reinforced by the hardest of all the rocky materials known in all this region, the Sioux quartzite. From Sioux Falls northward, for a long and yet unknown distance, did this very hard and tough material come into the way of the advancing ice. And still to the north of the quartzite came the granite rocks of Minnesota, hardly less tough and resisting than the quartzite.* A cape of such hardness was too much for the icy tide which came beating against it, and the tide turned out of its course to the east and to the west, and in flowing along Iowa's western border was at every point forced by its sloping, rocky bed to travel in the direction of the slope, and thus came these marks cut on the deep laid bed of the Missouri river.

---

* Six hundred and thirty feet in depth of stratified rocks, having been removed by glacial or other power, along and west of line B, C, on the map.

The climate of the times of this most ancient glacier was such that its advancing front reached far to the south, but as the air became drier and at the same time warmer, the ice melted away, leaving in its stead the great fresh water inland sea before spoken of. The sea was drained and dried away, and again the ice came down, but the climate, not so rigorous as before, checked it in its course, so that I am of the opinion that it barely reached to the fortieth parellel of north latitude. One of the results of this incursion was to cut out the channel of the Missouri from its junction with the Mississippi river up to some point along the west side of Iowa, where the ice formed a ridge of debris in an east and west direction, which ridge served as the southern rim of another lake or inland sea, which must have occupied the present valley as far as the ice left it up to about the latitude of Fort Yates, Dakota, or it may be as far as the city of Bismarck. The waters of this lake gradually cut away its southern shore, and at last the Missouri valley, the work first of ice, and lastly of water, became dry land, and carried a swelling torrent of water along its course, many times the volume of the present river, which now has a fall from Fort Pierre, Dakota, to St. Louis, Mo., of not less than 1050 feet, the distance being about 1,270 miles, thus giving an average fall of ten inches per mile.

---

* The quartzite shows itself all over the region from E west to the Big Sioux river, and further on to the James river, and as far north as X at the Pipestone quarry.

The bed of this river is at all points along our western border much higher than the bed of the Mississippi on corresponding parallels of latitude, the Missouri being about 200 feet the highest.

Having given a description of the vallies of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, and also of the intervening ridges and vallies of Iowa and Minnesota, I will now introduce a map of the region, and will endeavor to show by it, in connection with the evidence found upon the surface, how it was that glacial ice formed the divides, and the vallies between them. In the first place, the granite rocks in Minnesota in a number of places show, by the furrows and scratches upon their upper surfaces, that the ice passed over them, moving generally in a southeast direction. On the southeast quarter of section thirty, in township 113 north, range thirty-nine west of the fifth P. M., in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, is an exposure of granite rocks, which stands twelve to twenty feet high above the surface of the ground. These rocks are not boulders at all, but hard solid granite *in place*. Over this granite knob the ice passed and cut it into various shapes, the main effect being to cut a channel down into it from three to five feet deep, and as many feet wide, and all over the rock here exposed are cuts and channels, and scratches; these vary in length from a few feet to more than one hundred feet, and all very truly show the direction in which the cutting force travelled, which was by compass bearings taken by myself, S. 45° E. Two miles to the southeast of this pinnacle which so sternly withstood the push and cut of the ice sheet, is a surface of granite, which is just at a level with the ground, or at most, but a little below it. Here again are to be seen the traces of the icy rasp going yet to the southeast. Along both sides of the channel of the Minnesota river, from Yellow Medicine county down to the great bend of the stream, are to be seen several traces of the ice track, and all are in direction from northwest to southeast. Moreover, the very channel, or rather trough, in which the Minnesota river traces its course is almost in a line from northwest to southeast, varying only about five degrees to the east, and as we proceed southward from the great bend in the stream at Mankato, we do not see many furrows or scratches, owing to the great thickness of the drift deposits, which along the north line of Iowa are about 300 feet thick, but all that we do see still give the direction southeast, and finally a study of the granite rocks and boulders show that they have come from their original beds in a direction southeast to where they are found lying in the soil or on the surface.

If the reader will now examine the map which faces page 174, there will be seen a small circle just over U, on the west side of the upper range of the Minnesota river. That small circle marks the place of the granite rock, which I have spoken of, as in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. Further down, just over V, to the left of the word Cedar, is another small circle which marks the locality of Mason City, Iowa. Now follow down the Cedar river to a circle just to the right of W and you have the place of the village of Moscow, spoken of in another number on this subject. Now, a line drawn on the map from Big Stone lake, the head of the Minnesota river, just left of T to W, will pass over, or close to, the circles at U and V. It was along this line that the ice sheet passed, and there is no doubt but that its axis must for a very long time have moved in this direction, and have been very near this line, for here was the most work done, the deepest cutting made, as witness the trough* of the Minnesota river, cut down into the solid granite over large extents many feet, and the material moved hundreds of miles to the southeast of where the glacier dislodged it.

---

* Also that of Cedar River in Iowa.

Upon the map will be seen a waved black line, winding a torturous course in a southeast direction from A by the way of X and C to D. This waved line represents the main divide between the drainage into the Missouri river and that into the Mississippi river.

Its altitude near A is not far from 2,600 feet above the sea, and it gradually declines to about 800 feet above the sea at D. Near to A and X along its course, its summit is about 700 feet above the lowest vallies on the east of it, and not far from 350 feet above the valley of the Big Sioux river on the west of it.

At its southern extremity it rises about 320 feet above the Mississippi river.

From the composition of the materials of which this great backbone ridge is made, I have no doubt but that it was formed by the action of flowing ice. It consists of what the geologist calls drift materials, that is, of clays, sand, gravel and stones, of all sizes and shapes, from a pebble flattened on its sides and planed to a true surface, to the largest boulders, many of which show on their sides the filing, rasping action which gave them shape, while the larger part of the pebbles and boulders are worn to rounded forms. The sands and clays are pitched together in the greatest confusion, having nowhere a regular bed, or stratified condition, unless it be now and then where subsequent agencies have so arranged them. Furthermore, this ridge everywhere overtops the country on both sides of it, except in very rare cases, where it has been broken through by pent up waters. It also is formed of an irregular range of eminences large and small, varying from small rounded hillocks ten to twenty feet in height, to great hills rising from 100 to 200 feet above their fellows. It is in general from one to five miles across, and in places much more, and there are many "*cut-offs*," so called, these being low places or depressions running across the divide, almost cutting it in two. Some of these are narrow, resembling a cutting made for a railway (and indeed some of them are so used), while others are as much as half a mile wide. I shall refer to this feature further on.

In Minnesota and Dakota "The Divide" is very plentifully supplied with stones, large and small, mostly granite, and in many places is covered on the eastern slopes with millions of fragments of a very hard compact yellow limestone, which throughout a large extent of country furnishes the only lime to be had. It, when properly burned, gives the best lime which I have seen produced in the northwest. It sets very hard, and in every way answers the purpose of lime and cement combined. After the divide has passed into Iowa it is in a great measure divested of stony materials, consisting thenceforward to its southern extremity of sand, clay and gravel, but it retains its bluffy features and zig-zag outline. In the vicinity of Spirit Lake, in Iowa, it is almost lost in a labyrinth of lakes and detached mounds, and stony hills, but here it preserves its elevated character above all its surroundings, being simply a broad, flat divide. Along its southern portions it shows very plainly the action of modifying agents at work since the glacier left it. I have thus hastily described this, the grand feature of the country which lies between the two great rivers. It is a joy to look upon as its shapes rise and fall in the mazes of the ever-changing *mirage*, and it has been my fortune to see almost the whole extent of it as described. For other parts I have drawn from Nicollet, Fremont and other explorers.

Returning to the map, I have shown a dividing ridge ranging from E, by way of F, to H.* It forks at F. Between this ridge and the main divide lies the Des Moines river, and just below B is a fork of the main divide shown, which lies between the Des Moines and its principal branch, the Coon river. From F at the fork of the divide, E, F, G and H, rises the Skunk river. Midway between the letters E and M is a divide terminating at K; between this and E, F, lies the Cedar river and branches, constituting the largest drainage basin of the state of Iowa, and as before said, cut the deepest down into the stratified rocks. And lastly, in Iowa, along the east side of the "Wapsie" river, is a divide terminating at L.

---

* This ridge continues towards the northwest to Y, where it joins the "Main Divide."— C. W. I.

Will the reader please to observe the parallelism of the divides just described, and also the fact that they all curve in the same direction?

They all have in the main the same features of the main divide just described; but in no case do they compare with it in height nor size. They all doubtless have been connected at their lower extremities, and have held back the waters of great lakes which occupied the basins through which now flow the rivers. They all were formed by the same power, the ice sheet, which at this period of its existence was dying away. At each advance it was thinner and narrower, and its stay less prolonged. After having pushed up the "Main Divide," at which time it doubtless covered all the space from A, B, D, to P, S, it retired, certainly as far north as the north line of Iowa. As it came back it was diverted at B, and came down to H, and after many advances and recessions, over the space eastward from B to D, it again retired, to return by E, F and H, and again by way of E, F and G.

It must each time, that it returned to what is now the channel of the Mississippi river, have pushed that stream quite out of its course, and no doubt did at last force the great river to relinquish a portion of its domain and cut for itself a new channel in places. The ice having filled with drift materials the old one, thus was Illinois at times occupied by the tremendous flow of waters which were ever coming down from the region, from P, S, westward to B, and thus was the valley of the Illinois river at first cut out and formed.

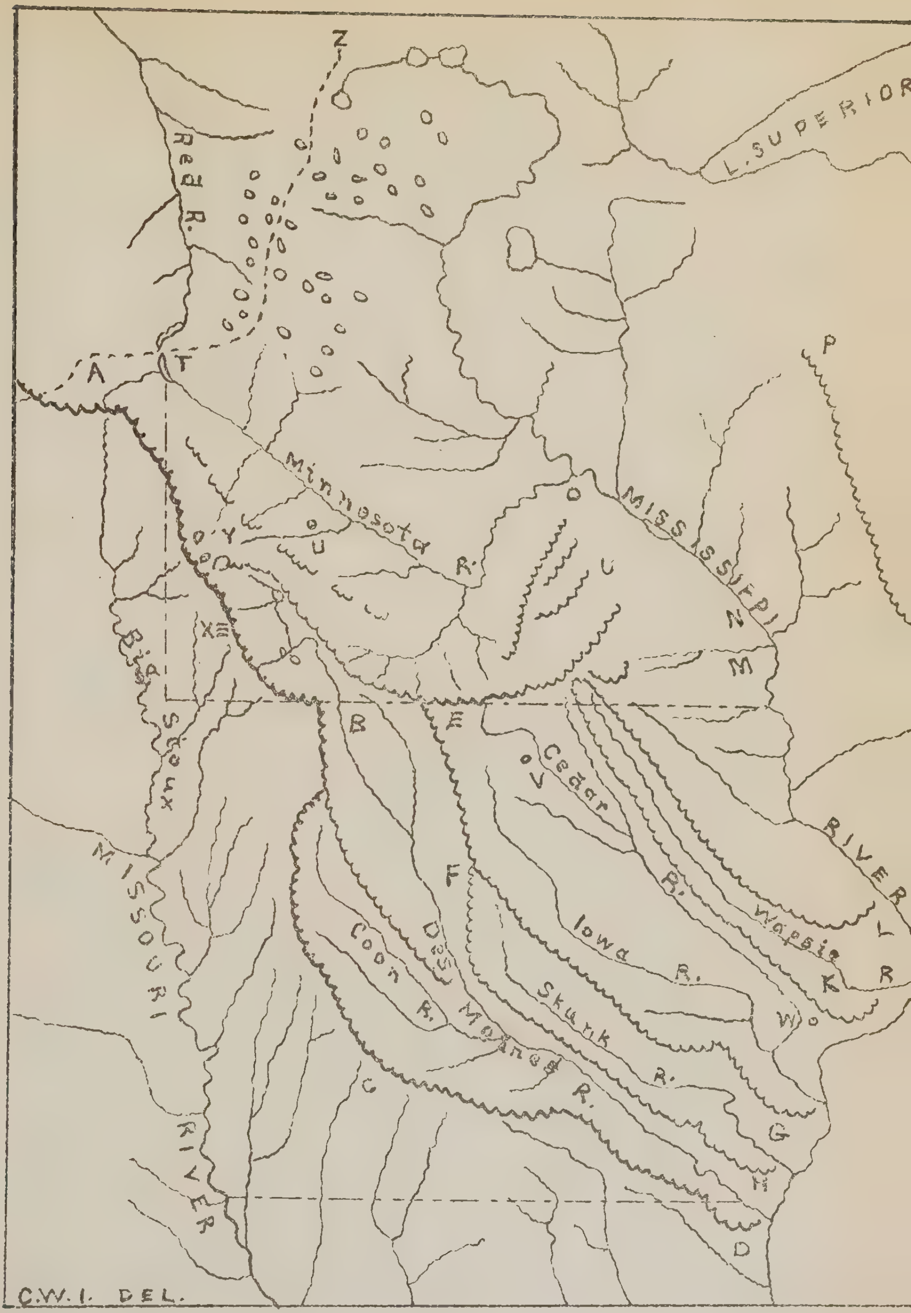
That the flow of waters from the region P, S, to B, was enormous, is evidenced by the fact that it cut so deeply into the rocky crust from O, at the mouth of the Minnesota, down to the mouth of the Des Moines at H, thus finishing the work begun by the ice.

After the ice sheet had retired at last to the region occupied by the basin of the upper Mississippi, in Minnesota, it seems not to have been able to advance much further south than to about where the north line of Iowa crosses the map, and here from alternate advances and retreats, it pushed up a great ridge, which, built of sand, clay, gravel and boulders, is not less than 200 to 300 feet in thickness, as a rule.* This great ridge cut off the flow of water to the south, and turned it to the east and northeast, and thus came the vallies and channels of Root, Zumbro and Cannon rivers, and that part of the Minnesota river from Mankato to its mouth. I have marked on the map a representation of several of the well defined lines of mounds and hills which the ice formed in its various advances. They are shown by the same kind of wavy black line which marks the divides in Iowa. The longest and most continuous is that from Y, by way of E, to J. (The J is printed reversed). Then there are several more of these ranges of mounds and hills, as shown, which are all in a measure parallel to each other, and their rounded, convex contours, turned towards the southeast are evidence of the shape and direction of the great icy tongue which, by its motion, pushed them into shape.

I have marked by the dotted line, Z, T, A, the course of the continental divide, or the ridge which divides the waters flowing into Hudson Bay from those which flow into the Gulf of Mexico. The crest of this divide is near to Z, about 1,300 feet above the sea, and at I, between lakes Traverse and Big Stone, it is 975 feet. From I towards A it rises at the junction of the divide, between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, as before said, to about 2,000 feet above the sea. Now the general slope of the surface from Z, T, A, towards N, M,

---

*This ridge is shown on the map ranging southward and eastward from Y, via E to O, forking a little to the east of E.


Z
L. SUPERIOR
Red R.
A
T
P
Minnesota R.
MISSISSIPPI
O
U
Y
U
XE
Big Sioux
N
M
B
E
V
Cedar R.
RIVER
F
Iowa R.
Wapsie
L
R
K
W
Des Moines R.
Coon R.
Skunk R.
MISSOURI
C
G
H
RIVER
D
C.W.I. DEL.

is not very great, amounting to only about 150 feet in 200 miles, while the slope from Z, T, A, northward, is not less than 800 feet in about 355 miles, the one towards the south being not quite one foot per mile, while the one towards the north is about two and one-fourth feet per mile.

.From this state of facts it is seen that, as the supply of rain and snow to the glaciers became less, and the heat of the climate greater, there would come a time in which the force of gravity pulling down the slope, north from Z, T, A, together with the thinning of the ice, would be sufficient to overcome the effect of the same force pulling down the much less slope *south* from Z, T, A. This result would have the further effect to stop all motion in those parts of the ice which at that time covered the space Z, A, Y, U, O, P, and it is seen that all further changes must have come about from the cutting action of the enormous floods of water which were continually escaping from the top, front, sides, and from beneath this enormous ice field, which was not less than 50,000 to 60,000 square miles in extent, and also from the expansion of the ice in winters. These escaping floods pouring down from above, and gushing out from below the ice, formed a sea, or lake, high enough to surpass the high ridge, Y, E, J, and deeply cut the river channels from K to N. They also reached over to the Cedar basin. The greatest overflow was by way of the Des Moines, carrying the head of that river thirty to forty miles further north than that of any other Iowa stream. And had it not have been for the high granite ridge which came in the way about the region marked U, would have doubtless cut that river through to Big Stone lake. There are other points along the main divide, where the pent up waters from the ice field surpassed the main ridge. One is near to Y, where I have marked three lakes, each of which lies with one extremity embedded in the ridge. The southernmost is Lake Benton, which has an altitude of 1,755 feet above the sea. This beautiful sheet of water lies in a plain elevated but a few feet above it, and discharges itself into the

Redwood river, by a long, crooked creek, which leaves it on the north side. There is a more ancient place of discharge on its south side which, when in action, carried its waters in a southeast course to Rush lake, and thence into the Redwood river, and no doubt, at first into the Des Moines. I think that a rise of ten feet in the waters of Lake Benton would now cause a flow into Rush lake, and a further rise of twenty-six feet a flow into the Des Moines. Lake Benton lies with its longest dimension, east and west. At its west end the main divide rises into high and very precipitous bluffs; bluffs which are magnificent in their proportions, and which, from their hugeness, give testimony to the mighty power that, forcing its way along the bed-rock of the country, pushed up before it the materials of which they are made. The summit of the ridge, which here completely encircles the west end of the lake, varies from 1,900 feet to 2,150 feet above the sea, the highest portions being to the westward and northwest of the west end of the lake. The ridge is here twice cut clean through. Both of these cuts are on the south side of the lake's western end. The easternmost cut is not as deep as its neighbor, which is about half a mile further west. They both communicate with a small creek, which flows into the Big Sioux river just below the town of Flandeau. The westernmost of these cuts is so deeply made, that a person could hardly be made to believe that the divide between the waters of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers is to be found at the bottom of it, without extensive measures and examinations. Yet such is the case, and the division is so low and close to the lake that much water is continually passing by percolation from the lake into the creek, and thus into the Big Sioux river. The highest part of this,* the lowest pass of the two, through the divide, is only fourteen feet above the present level of the lake. The lowest portion of the highest pass to the east of this, must be about 100 to 150 feet above the lake level.

---

* Which high part is the divide here only fourteen feet above the lake, while one mile west or one mile east of this place the divide is not less than 350 feet above the lake. The water began cutting down the divide at this height above the present level of the lake, and has cut away 340 feet in depth of the divide.— C. W. I.

Now, here is proof that water has covered the region about Lake Benton, in Minnesota, to a depth of at least 340 feet, and that it for a time discharged across the divide into the Big Sioux, whereas, now, it discharges into the Minnesota and thus into the Mississippi.

Where is the barrier to the eastward of Lake Benton, at Y, which held back such a mass of water? It is not there, and as the surface of the whole region from Y eastward to O, and nearly to P, is much below the crest of the divide at Lake Benton, it follows that it was not an earthern or rocky dam which did this work. It was the body of the glacier, which at that time was thawing away most rapidly on its southwest exposure to the sun, and held this inland sea against the shore which its power had provided. When the ice had wasted so much that the valley of the Minnesota river gave the pent up waters an outlet from the bend at R to O, then was the water lowered to a level with the bottom of the western pass described. I have a belief that the valley of the upper Des Moines was also a pent up lake at this time, for it is certain that an elevation of thirty-six feet above the present level of Lake Benton would spill water over into the Des Moines. As there is no evidence that any barrier, higher than this, was interposed, it seems pretty certain that for a long time the upper portion of the Des Moines Valley held water to the depth of not less than 900 to 1,000 feet. The southern end of this Des Moines lake was most probably, I think, about the word Des, on the map, where the divide between the Coon and Des Moines rivers terminates. Northwest of Lake Benton is a very fine lake about one-third the length of the former, its Indian name is Shay-o-cot-o-pe or the "Lake where we roasted the Cheyenne." This lake now empties into the Yellow Medicine river, which is a branch of the Minnesota, but like its relative, Lake Benton, it has also a cut-off or pass through the divide, and has discharged its waters into the Big Sioux. Going on northwesterly about seven miles, is another lake, as large as Benton, also a tributary to the Minnesota, and running from the lake through the main divide is a pass and channel, much larger and deeper than that at Benton. It is large enough to warrant the belief that it one time carried as much water as does the Minnesota. Indeed, I think that it must have carried several times more than that stream does now.

Finally, at the head of the Big Sioux, is still another pass, outdoing all the others I have described. From all that I have seen of it, and the valley of the Big Sioux below it, I feel safe to say that at some time it conveyed away from the regions about A and T, ten times the amount of water which ordinarily flows in the channel of the Mississippi past Keokuk. I think that it was the cutting down of this last named pass, and the widening of it, which rapidly drained away the collected waters, and thus prevented the other passes named from becoming permanent drains or rivers, and this end was again helped on by the escape of the waters by way of the lower range of the Minnesota valley. It must be remembered that the flow of water from the icy sheet which supplied it, was no doubt intermittent, there being but little or no supply during the winter season, and, it may be, none for years at a time, hence we need not expect the cutting to be on the same scale as if a constant river were flowing along these ancient water ways at the time they were made. To the spilling of the waters of the Minnesota icy sea, over the rim of the main divide, is due the vallies of all the streams which head in it on its western side. They are all formed on a scale much greater than is due to the insignificant streams which now flow along them. They all are cut down deeply into a peculiar material which the geologists have called "Bluff Deposit," and as the slope of the valley from A southwards is quite large, being from A to the mouth of the Big Sioux abont three feet per mile, and from the last named point it is, as far as Council Bluffs, one and nine-tenths feet per mile along the Missouri river. (These distances being measured direct along the vallies, and not following the windings of the streams.) All the streams running into the Missouri below X have very great slopes, much more per mile than the fall of the main streams; hence their almost perfect parallelism. There is a feature of the ground surface from the latitude of F, northward, which I must describe before closing this article.

From F and V, going north and west, almost every pond and lake will present on its shores (and almost always on the southeast side) a ridge, or wall of stones, earth and sand, piled up to the height of several feet, and in many cases there will be seen high rounded hillocks as bluffs on the east, southeast, and south margin of ponds, or lakes; and these hillocks will, in many cases, be found covered, in fact well paved, with cobble stones, on their water faces, and from the water line upward, to many feet in elevation, above the water. When these hillocks do not appear, the "wall" will be found, with its water face well covered with the same sort of paving as described for the hillocks.

Now, there is one feature of this paving, which is remarkable, and that is the uniformity in size of the rounded stones composing it. They range from four to six inches in diameter to eighteen or twenty inches, and they have the same appearance, as to kind and sorting, whether they are formed along the wall of a lake in Iowa, or along a lake or pond in Dakota.

Moreover, the hills in all parts of Dakota are on some of their sides banded with just such stones, and in the regions called the "Coteaus of the Prairie" and the "Coteaus of the Missouri" in Dakota, the tops and sides of the "Coteau" hillocks are shingled with stones in the same manner. Also the valley sides of many of the Dakota streams are covered in the same way, and with the same material. I traced miles of an apparent shore line, marked on the sides of the most elevated hills, east of the Missouri river in Dakota, by means of such a band of paving not more than twenty-five or thirty feet wide, which shore line I found to be about 500 feet above the level of the Missouri at Fort George Island.

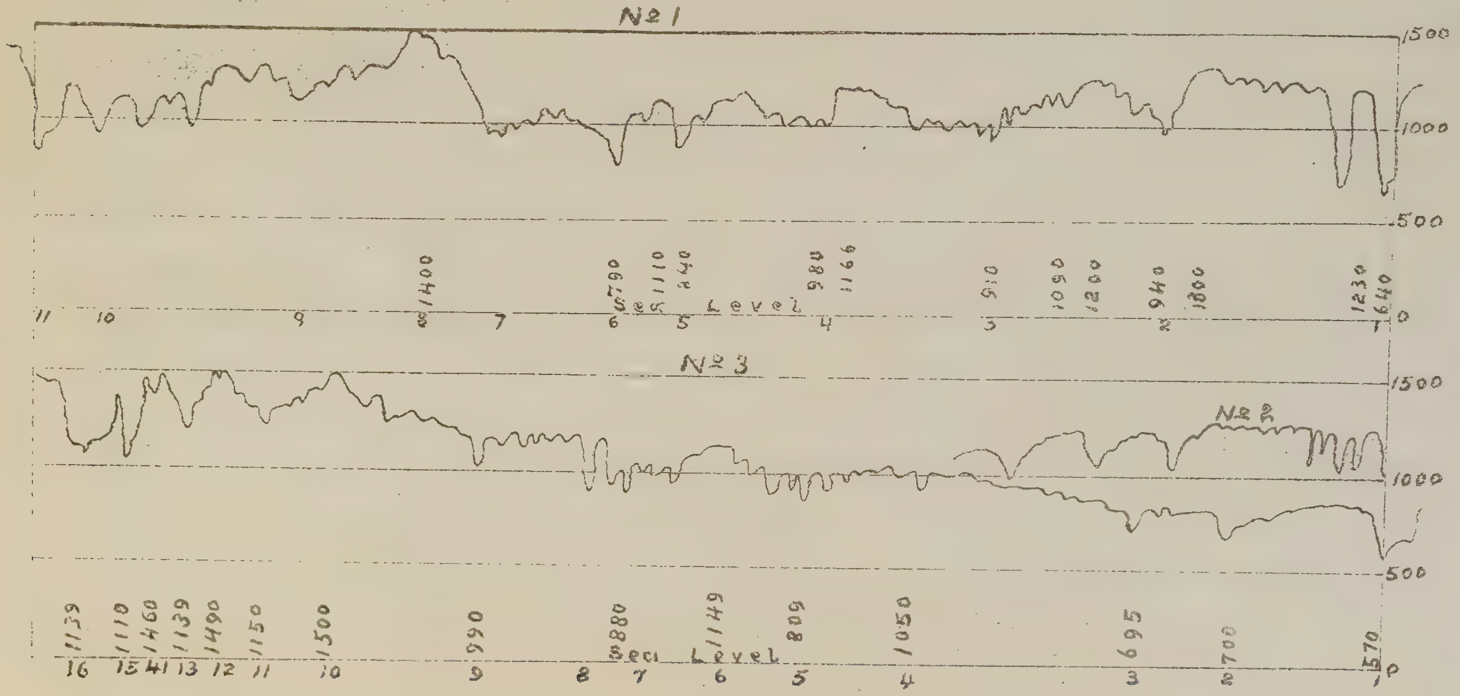
Having lived several winters in that region of ponds and lakes shown on the maps from B to Y, I had a chance to see how the said walls and stony covering had been formed. It is done by the action of ice when expanding itself in freezing.

First of all, the ice forms over the pond a uniform sheet, and as it forms it expands. Warm, thawing days come, and the ice softens, its crystalline texture opens, and it drinks into its mass the water which forms in puddles upon its surface. At night it freezes, and again it expands, pushing its margin a little further into the shore than before, and so on. At last, when warm weather comes and the ice melts away, you will find that it has pushed the entire shore of the lake outwards, from its center several feet, removing soil, rocks and trees along with it, and as the water varies in depth with the seasons, there may be several of these walls, representing so many stages of water in the lake.

Now, when the wall is found (as is generally the case), on the southeast, east or south side of the lake, you will find opposite to it, on the other shore, high bluffs sheer down to the water, and in most cases, the very base of these bluffs will be found packed with such stones as face the wall. These bluffs serve as abutments to receive the squeezing pressure of the ice, and as they are not movable, the opposite shore is by their aid pushed up and out from them. Thus the ice will push up a furrow in one winter which will rise from two or three feet above its level, to ten or twelve feet.* At Lake Benton, in Minnesota, I measured the amount of push of the ice during the winters of 1878–9 and 1879–80,

---

*That is the work of severe winters, will raise a wall or bank ten or more feet in height.



No 1
1500
1000
500
0
11
10
9
8 1400
7
6 790
Sea Level
5 1110
840
4 980
1166
3 910
1090
1200
2 940
1800
1 1230
640
No 3
No 2
1500
1000
500
0
16 1139
15 1110
14 1460
13 1139
12 1490
11 1150
10 1500
9 990
8
7 880
Sea Level
6 1149
5 809
4 1050
3 695
2 700
1 570

C.W.I. DEL.

and found that ice two and one-half miles wide would push in one direction, the earth, stones and trees on its margin an average of eight feet, horizontally. Here then is the secret of the formation of "walled lakes," so called. The ice is not particular what it uses for this wall building, for I have seen a margin of sand three feet high left by the ice as its winter's work; also have I seen the mud which formed the bottom of the lake, together with muskrat houses, pushed along to form a wall. In this case it was a season of low water in the lakes. Furthermore, I have seen where water happened to remain and freeze, in very shallow places in Dakota, do the same kind of work on a small scale. In little basins not more than thirty or forty feet across and only a few inches deep, ice happened to form in the fall and remain through the winter. This small ice sheet pushed up for itself a baby wall a few inches high, and thus I had the opportunity to see an infant glacier at work. In this way the plains of Dakota are marked with circles and ovals, the work of tiny ice sheets, which are taken to be the work of animals or Indians.

Indians and animals do leave marks on the prairies, circles, oblongs and squares, but their characteristics at once point out their origin to the practiced eye.

Thus the work of the glacial period continues in our day, on a very small scale it is true, but the same methods form before one's eyes, the miniature of the great ridges shown upon the map herewith.

Facing this page are shown two profiles across the state of Iowa, Nos. 1 and 3, and one, No. 2, part way across. The line at the bottom of each profile is supposed to be sea level; other lines are drawn across at intervals of 500 feet up to 1,500 feet above sea level. No. 1 profile is drawn across the state from its northeast corner to its southwest corner. The numbers written above its bottom line are altitudes of rivers and ridges directly above them, while the line of numbers, running from one to eleven written below the line of sea level, are for references, as follows:

No. 1. Mississippi river.
No. 2. Wapsipinicon river.
No. 3. Cedar river.
No. 4. Iowa river.
No. 5. Skunk river.
No. 6. Des Moines river.
No. 7. Coon river.
No. 8. Main divide.
No. 9. Nodaway river.
No. 10. Nishnabotany river.
No. 11. Missouri river,

which has at this point an elevation of about 962 feet above sea level. From the crest of the main divide to the first depression, which falls below the 1,000 feet line of the the profile, west of the divide, is well shown by the profile a plateau, which in the south part of the state has an average elevation of about 1,250 feet, and which ranges along the west side of the divide northward, to the north line of the state; but in its northern parts it is very deeply cut by the streams from the latitude of Council Bluffs northward. Its elevation, I believe, was paramount to that of the divide when the latter was formed, and that it was afterwards cut down, in its southern portion, by a strong flow of water southwards, along the divide. The crests of the ridges, which are remains of this plateau in the northern part of the state, are much higher than the crest of the divide to the east of them.

The materials of this plateau are, for a base, the older cretaceous rocks, which system constitutes the highest range of stratified rocks in Iowa. Upon the cretaceous rocks lies a bed of drift materials of varying thickness, and over the drift is a bed of very peculiar material called, by geologists, "Bluff Deposit." This is composed as follows:

Silica (in the form of very fine sand), .	parts,	83.55
Iron (in the form of rust), ...	"	4.31
Alumina (in the form of clay), . .	"	0.67
Carbonate of Lime (in the form of chalk), .	"	7.00
Carbonate of Magnesia, ...	"	2.09
Moisture, ...	"	1.11
Traces of Organic Matter and loss, . .	"	1.27
In all, ...	"	*100.00

---

* Taken from White's Geology of Iowa.

The great rush of water from A to B, on the map, across the divide, into the valley of the Missouri, swept away the bluff deposits in a portion of northwestern Iowa, southwestern Minnesota and southeastern Dakota, but I saw it along the Missouri from Fort Thompson to Pierre and as far up the river as it has been my fortune to travel, forming not only bluffs, but where the bluffs were formed of tertiary strata, there I found the bluff deposits in the shape of terraces on their sides, and in nearly every case there were five such terraces, all of them at an altitude above the sea of from 1,450 feet to about 1,700 feet. These terraces faced the Missouri bluffs, and also rounded into the branching vallies and continued along the sides of them for miles. I will say here that this upper Missouri river bluff deposit seems to me to be coarser and of lighter color than the bluff deposits of Iowa.

From all that I have said on this subject, it will appear, if I am right as to what I have seen, that the "Bluff Deposit" is of an age intermediate between two incursions of ice, the first being the deepest and wide spreading, and also the most prolonged. By its work was the basins of nearly all the great rivers formed, and the bed rocks of the region shown on the accompanying map, planed and smoothed into their general shapes.

The vallies of the Missouri and the James rivers were cut out, the former from its mouth to, at any rate, as far up as Old Ft. Union, and the latter to its present extent, and indeed the greater part of the great drainage basin of the Mississippi from mountain chain to mountain chain. At last the ice disappeared and left great inland seas, lakes, and it may be some rivers. These, in turn, disappear and the bluff deposit is left, spread over a wide extent, as a sequel..

Then came the last and much limited incursion of glacial ice, the work of which, in part, it has been my endeavor to describe.

Profile No. 2 is given to show by comparison with No. 3 how much the bluffs of the Mississippi fall away between

McGregor, and Clinton, Iowa, No. 2 running west from McGregor, and No. 3 from near Clinton along the 42d parallel of north latitude. The last depression shown by No. 2 is the valley of Cedar river.

Profile No. 3 is constructed on the same scale and plan of No. 1, and the line of numbers below the line marked sea level are for reference to what is above them:

No. 1. Mississippi river.
No. 2. Wapsipinicon river.
No. 3. Cedar river.
No. 4. Divide between Cedar and Iowa rivers.
No. 5. Iowa river.
No. 6. Divide between Iowa and Skunk rivers.
No. 7. Skunk river.
No. 8. Des Moines river.
No. 9. Coon river.
No. 10. Main Divide.
No. 11. Boyer river.
No. 12. Divide between Boyer and Soldier rivers.*
No. 13. Soldier river.
No. 14. Divide between Soldier and Maple rivers.*
No. 15. Little Sioux river.
No. 16. Missouri river.

It will be seen that the Mississippi on the east has an altitude of 570 feet, while the Missouri on the west has an altitude of 1,139 feet.

These profiles show very plainly the deep cutting by the ice after it had set for itself bounds on the west in the divide; see No. 8 on profile No. 1, and No. 10 on profile No. 3.

I think that if it is true that the water which spilled over this great rim of the glacial sea, cut away, and cut down into, and in many places through the "Bluff Deposit," it is plain that the bluff deposit is the older of the two.

---

*The tops of these divides show the original level of the plateau mentioned on page 182.

I wish that I had the time and space to write about all that I have seen of the work of the ice from Iowa to the Black Hills of Dakota and beyond, but I have not, and I hope that before long some one better qualified by time and experience, may go over the ground and give us all a chance to read his descriptions in the pages of the Record. The map and profiles were drawn and engraved on stone by myself, which will explain all deficiencies which they may exhibit.

C. W. Irish,
Civil Engineer.

A CHAPTER OF WAR HISTORY.

IN THE summer of 1862, Crocker's Iowa Brigade, the 11th, 13th, 15th and 16th Iowa Infantry, who held their third reunion at Iowa City last September, was posted at Bolivar, Tennessee, in the command of Brig.-Gen. L. F. Ross, now a resident of the immediate vicinity of Iowa City. Gen. Ross was in command of the sub-district of Jackson, with headquarters at the latter place. Bolivar, after having been threatened for some weeks by the confederates, was attacked in August, but the attack was repulsed. Gen. Ross, at this time, visited Bolivar in person, and after going back to Jackson, which he reached just before the railroad, on which he had made the trip, was captured and destroyed by the enemy, made the following report to Gen. Grant, who then had his headquarters at Corinth, Mississippi:

Headquarters, District of Jackson,
Jackson, Tenn, Sept. 7th, 1862.

Col. Jno. A. Rawlins,
Assistant Adjutant-General:—

I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of troops under my command during the 30th and 31st days of August, and the 1st day of Semtember, inst.:

On the morning of the 3d of August I received a dispatch from Col. M. M. Crocker, commanding at Bolivar, stating that that post was threatened by a large force, advancing from the south, and subsequently that Col. Leggett had been sent out to make an attack on the advancing columns of the enemy; that a skirmish had taken place with a force supposed to be about four thousand, and that reinforcements had been asked for and sent forward. Feeling that an attack was being made on Bolivar, I took the first train for that place. On arriving I ascertained that a severe skirmish had taken place four miles south of Bolivar between the forces under Col. Leggett, consisting of the 20th and 78th regiments of Ohio volunteers, four companies of the 2d Illinois cavalry under Lieut.-Col. Hogg, two companies of the 11th Illinois cavalry under Major Puterbaugh, one section of artillery, and the whole rebel force.

After a skirmish of about seven hours by our infantry, our artillery was brought to bear upon the enemy; this, followed by a gallant charge of our cavalry, under Lieut.-Col. Hogg, drove the enemy from the field. In this charge Col. Hogg fell, while engaged in a hand to hand fight with Col. McCullough, by a shot fired by one of McCullough's men.

Night coming on, our forces fell back to within supporting distance of the remainder of the division, formed in line of battle, and awaited a renewal of the attack. But in the morning the enemy was nowhere in sight, but I heard that his main force had moved to our right and had gone north. Fearing an attack on Jackson in force, the place being but weakly garrisoned, without fortifications, I directed that Col. Dennis, stationed at Estinaula with the 20th and 30th Ills. volunteers, two companies of cavalry under Capt. Foster, and one section of artillery, should return at once to Jackson, for which place I took the first train.

Within an hour of my return I was informed that the telegraph wires were cut and railroad bridges fired between here and Bolivar, and that four companies of the 45th Ills. volunteers at Medon, under Capt. Palmer, were attacked by superior numbers. Six companies of the 7th Mo. Vols., under Maj. Oliver, were at once sent forward to reinforce Medon. Orders were also dispatched to Col. Dennis, who was moving towards this place, to change his direction towards Medon, attack the rebels in the rear, and if possible, cut them to pieces and capture them.

Oliver, with his six companies of the 7th Mo., moved at once to Medon by railroad, attacked the enemy vigorously, and drove him from the field. The enemy had previously taken prisoners some forty of our pickets along the line of the railroad, but being driven from Medon and the line of the railroad and closely pursued, he retired on the road leading to Denmark. When about six miles from Denmark, on the following morning, the enemy's advance was met by the advance forces of Col. Dennis' command, eight hundred strong. Both parties prepared for action. Col. Dennis, selecting a strong position for resisting a cavalry charge, awaited the attack. The forces of the enemy numbered some six thousand. The engagement resulted in victory to our arms, the most brilliant of the war. The enemy left on the field one hundred and seventy-nine dead; wounded not known. Our loss is five killed and fifty-one wounded. After the engagement the enemy retired beyond the Hatchie, toward La Grange.

For particulars in regard to the above engagement, and for lists of killed and wounded, I beg leave to refer you to the reports of Col. Crocker, 13th Iowa volunteers, and Col. Lawler, 18th Ills. volunteers, enclosed herewith.

In each of these affairs the skill and gallantry of the officers, and the cool and determined courage of the men, are deserving of the highest commendation.

LEONARD F. ROSS,
Brig. Gen., Commanding Dist. of Jackson.

The following is a letter, in his own handwriting, from Gen. Grant to Gen. Ross:

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF WEST T.
CORINTH, September 2d, 1862.

GEN. L. F. ROSS,
Com. U. S. Forces, Sub-District of Jackson.

General:—Your dispatch by telegraph must have been sent subsequent to that by express. It puts a much more favorable aspect upon affairs and induced me to withhold the reinforcements I was attempting to send you from here.

This point, besides its importance, is very weak and should be reinforced rather than drawn from.

The rumors you have cannot all be true. It cannot be that Villapigue has crossed at Brownsville, and that from 6,000 to 8,000, or an investing force, is around Bolivar. Besides, if Villapigue should attempt a move, Sherman, who is watching him, would be in his rear in short order.

The last I heard of Villapigue his entire force only amounted to 6,000, all arms, besides some conscripts, who were being held by force of arms.

Sherman is instructed to send a division to Brownsville to co-operate with the Bolivar or Jackson forces, as circumstances may require.

My opinion is, that no large force threatens the line from Bolivar north, but it needs watching.

I have instructed Gen. Tuttle to reinforce you as soon as possible. Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT, Major General.

Following, we append a report to Gen. Ross, from Col. Crocker:

GEN. ROSS: BOLIVAR, September 3d.

Everything is quiet here. The enemy are encamped in considerable force at Middleburg. I have mounted everything inside the fortifications, and have arranged for a siege; have reconnoitred the country in every direction, and am satisfied that the enemy has no artillery or infantry. Our men are in fine spirits, and will be disappointed if they don't have a fight. When will you be here? M. M. CROCKER, Colonel.

DONATIONS TO THE IOWA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—LIBRARY.

From the Publishers, Union Village, N. H.,
The Manifesto for July, August and September.
From Charles Scribner's Sons,
Book Buyer for July.
From New England Historic and Genealogical Society,
Register for July.
From Hon. W. B. Allison, Washington, D. C.,
Vol. 10 of Tenth Census.
From Publishers, Cleveland, O.,
Magazine of Western History, for July, August and Sept.
From Library Company, Boston,
Bulletin of the Library No. 5, of Vol. 6.
From Worcester Society of Antiquity,
Proceedings of the Society for the year 1884.

From Wyoming Historical and Geological Society,
Proceedings and Collections, Vol. 2, part 1.
From University of California, Berkely,
Register of the University, 1884–5.
From Publishers, Philadelphia,
"The Sugar Beet."
From Department of Interior, Washington, D. C.,
Official Gazette.
From Hon. W. G. Hammond, St. Louis, Mo.,
Catalogue, Law Department of Washington University.
From State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas,
Fourth Biennial Report of Society.
From Historical Society of Pennsylvania,
Pennsylvania Magazine of History, July.
From Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.,
Quarterly Report of the Bureau of Statistics.
From Queen's Printer, Quebec,
Statutes of Quebec, 1885.
From Chicago Historical Society,
Chas. Hammond and his Relations to Henry Clay and John Quincy Adams, by Wm. Henry Smith, Esq.
From Hon. C. T. Ransom, Iowa City,
Five vols. Congressional Globe.
One vol. Dictionary of Congress.
From Hon. B. T. Frederick,
Report of Ethnology, 1880.
From Secretary of State,
Twenty vols. Supreme Court Reports, Vol. 63.
From Yale College,
Yale College in 1885.
Obituary Records of Graduates of Yale.
From Parker Pillsbury, Esq., Concord, N. H.,
The American Church, by Jac. G. Birney.
From Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.,
Circulars of Information, No. 2, 1885.

From Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.,
The Influence of the Proprietors in Founding the State of New Jersey, by Austin Scott.
American Constitutions, by Horace Davis.
From Shakers, Unionville, N. H.,
The Manifesto for August.
From P. Cudmore, Fairibault, Minn.,
Poems, Songs, Satires, etc.
From Department of State, Washington, D. C.,
Consular Reports, Labor in Foreign Countries.
Declared Exports for United States for year 1884.
From New Jersey Historical Society,
Proceedings of Society, Vol. 8, No. 4.
From Patent Office,
Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents.
From Gen. W. B. Hazen,
Monthly Weather Report for June.
From Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.,
Pocket Guide to Salem.
Bulletin for January, February and March, 1885.
From Department of State,
Consular Report, No. 53 and 53½.
Cholera in Europe, 1884.
From Hon. W. B. Allison,
Vol. 11 of 10th Census.
From Minnesota Academy of Science,
Bulletin, No. 5.
From Historical and Pioneer Society, Newark, Ohio,
Centennial History of Licking County, Ohio.
From State Library, Des Moines,
Report of Librarian for 1884.
From Rev. C. D. Bradlee, Boston,
Five Miscellaneous Pamphlets.
From Little, Brown & Co., Boston,
Fiat Money—a Review of Decisions of U. S. Supreme Court as to its Constitutionality.

From E. R. Hutchins, Commissioner,
First Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of Iowa, 1884–5.

From Department of Interior, through W. J. McGee,
Geological Map of the United States.

From Western Reserve & Northern Ohio Historical Society,
Report of 17th Annual Meeting of the Society, May, 1884.
Map and Description of Northwestern Ohio, 1796.
The Geographical History of Ohio.
The Corporate Birth and Growth of the City of Cleveland.
Tracts Nos. 61 and 66.

From American Antiquarian Society,
Proceedings of the Society, April 29th, 1885.

From Wm. Hardin, Esq., Savanah, Georgia,
A Suggestion as to the Origin of the Plan of Savanah.

From J. P. Walter, Esq., Muscatine,
Proceedings of Old Settler's Reunion.

From H. B. Teetor, Esq., Cincinnati, Ohio,
Life and Times of Col. Israel Ludlow.

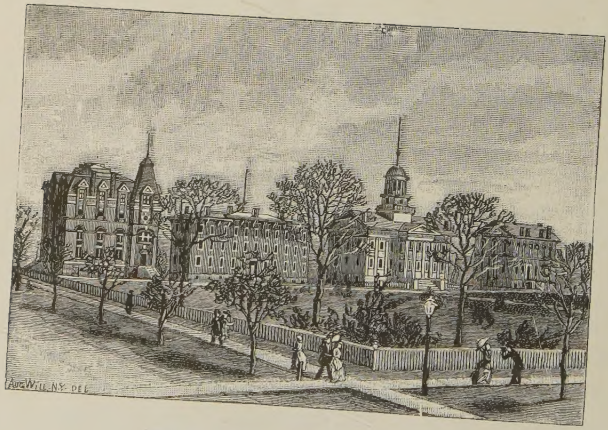
EDITORIAL NOTES.

MRS. RUTH L. CADLE, who died in Muscatine, on the 12th of last April, was the President of the Muscatine County Soldiers' Aid Society during the war. The ladies of Muscatine were perhaps the most earnest in the state in practical efforts to smooth the pillows of the sick and wounded Iowa soldiers in the field, and Mrs. Cadle, whose family contributed a gallant soldier to the cause of the Union in the person of Col. Cornelius Cadle, Jr., was the foremost of them all. The expressions of sorrow for her death and recognition of her worth have been dutifully collected by her son, Henry Cadle, and compressed into a neat memorial volume, intended for the libraries of her friends.

ISRAEL GREEN, of Mitchell, Dakota, lately appointed agent for the Indians at the Sisseton Agency of that territory, was a lieutenant in the United States marine corps in 1859, and it was he who led the final assault and captured John Brown in the engine house, on the occasion of Brown's insurrection at Harper's Ferry. Green and Major Stewart were the first to dash through the broken door, and Green singled Brown out for a hand to hand combat. Capt. Dangerfield, a clerk in the armory, who had been made prisoner the day before the attack, says Lieut. Green stood a second amidst a shower of balls, looking for Brown. When he saw him he sprang at him, giving him an underthrust with his sword. Brown fell forward, with his head between his knees, while Green struck him several times over the head. It was at first thought Brown had been killed.

THE house lately purchased by Mr. Whitney, secretary of the navy, in the suburbs of Washington, is said to have been standing since the colonial days, and it is to be furnished and decorated in the style of 1776.

PROF. PARVIN is authority for the anecdote published in a pamphlet by Prof. Jesse Macy of Iowa College, "Institutional Beginnings in a Western State," that a member of the Iowa Territorial Legislature having introduced a bill on the subject of *Jeofails*, the members supported it with unanimity, supposing it to be for the benefit of Joe Fails, then a popular Territorial officer.



STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.